**REGISTRATION FORM** All teams must be registered by: March 31, 2006 **SEND FORMS TO: Gary Redden USDA NRCS** 465 Ragland Road Beckley, WV 25801 School or Organization:

# **Team Members:** Coach/Coaches:

# **Sponsors:**

The WV Grassland Evaluation Contest Committee would like to acknowledge the many people who make this contest possible:

WV Grassland Steering Committee

WV Conservation Districts

WV State Conservation Committee

WV Assoc. of Conservation Districts

WV Conservation Agency

USDA NRCS

USDA Farm Service Agency

WV Department of Agriculture

WV FFA Association

WVU Extension Service

WVU College of Agriculture, Forestry, and Consumer Science

WVU Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station

WV Farm Bureau

WV Cattleman's Association

WV Shepherd's Federation

Wes-Mon-Ty RC&D

Local Agribusinesses

Private Sector Agricultural Producers

# WEST **VIRGINIA**



**GRASSLAND EVALUATION CONTEST** 

April 7, 2006

# The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual West Virginia Grassland Evaluation Contest

# The West Virginia Grassland Steering

**Committee** is an organization made up of farmers, educators, scientists, conservationists, and government agencies with a common interest in forages. The committee is an advocate and proponent for improvement and continued wise use of grassland to improve water quality and maintain healthy and productive land and maximize profits. Forages make up two thirds or more of the feed utilized for livestock. Forages provide food and shelter for wildlife, greatly reduce soil erosion, and protect water quality.

Increasing awareness of grassland management through education is one of the strategic issues identified by the steering committee. With this in mind, they initiated West Virginia's first Grassland Evaluation Contest. It was held in April, 2001 at Jackson's Mill during the annual Beef Expo. Its purpose is to improve the participants' knowledge of grassland management.

### **Contest Categories**

- Pasture Condition
- Plant I.D.
- Soils Interpretation
- Wildlife Habitat

# **Eligible Participants:**

A contest team may consist of a maximum of 4 or a minimum of 3 FFA or 4-H members who are currently enrolled at the high school level.

# Scholarships:

All members of the first place team will receive a **\$500** scholarship, second place team members will receive a **\$250** scholarship, and the highest scoring individual will receive a **\$500** scholarship.

The first place team is eligible to participate in the Mid-America Contest at Cape Giradeau, Missouri.

# **For More Information Contact:**

**Gary Redden** 

304-255-9225 ext 136

For additional information view our web site at  $\square$  http://www.wv.nrcs.usda.gov/wv\_contest/contest.html

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